

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:DFINNERTY

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:WNEWLIN

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TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS TOSEC 338

FOLLOWING STATE 222040 SENT ISLAMABAD INFO BELGRADE NOV 10  
RPT TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 222040

STADIS EXDIS TOSEC 338

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ME, YO

SUBJECT: DRAFT OF PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE TO TITO'S LETTER  
ON MIDDLE EAST

REF: STATE 218948, 217505

1. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENT ON ATTACHED DRAFT OF  
PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO PRESIDENT TITO'S LETTER ON MIDDLE  
EAST CRISIS. AS TITO WILL BE GOING TO MOSCOW SHORTLY,  
POSSIBLY AS EARLY AS NOVEMBER 12, EARLY DESPATCH OF  
PRESIDENT'S LETTER WOULD SEEM ADVISABLE.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

YOUR LETTER OF NOVEMBER 3 SETTING FORTH YOUR VIEWS  
ON THE PRESENT CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE STEPS  
TO ACHIEVE A LASTING SOLUTION TO THIS CRISIS HAS BEEN  
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STUDIED CAREFULLY. BECAUSE OF THE CLOSE PERSONAL RELA-  
TIONSIPS YOU HAVE MAINTAINED FOR MANY YEARS WITH THE  
LEADERS OF SEVERAL IMPORTANT COUNTRIES IN THE MIDDLE  
EAST AND THE CAREFUL ATTENTION YOU HAVE GIVEN TO

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA, YOUR ASSESSMENTS OF THE SITUATION THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN OF INTEREST.

AS YOU OBSERVED IN YOUR LETTER, YUGOSLAVIA AND THE US HAVE WIDELY DIVERGENT VIEWS CONCERNING THE ORIGIN AND NATURE OF THE PRESENT CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IN LIGHT OF THESE DIFFERENCES, MR. PRESIDENT, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR ME TO OUTLINE US AIMS SINCE THE

OUTBREAK OF THE RECENT ROUND OF FIGHTING IN THE AREA.

THROUGHOUT THE PRESENT CRISIS THE US HAS DIRECTED ITS EFFORTS TOWARD THE ACHIEVEMENT OF TWO OBJECTIVES: THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AND THE CREATION OF CONDITIONS CONDUCIVE TO PROGRESS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE. THE US PURSUED THESE OBJECTIVES AT THE UNITED NATIONS AND IN DIPLOMATIC CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT, THE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, AND OTHER INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS.

IN RECENT DAYS WE HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN A MAJOR EFFORT TO CONSOLIDATE THE CEASEFIRE SO THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT TO MOVE ON TOWARDS A MORE PERMANENT PHASE OF NEGOTIATION. IT WAS IN PURSUIT OF THESE GOALS THAT WE CONSULTED WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF EGYPT, ISRAEL AND SYRIA IN WASHINGTON LAST WEEK, AND THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER AND HIS PARTY TRAVELED TO SEVERAL ARAB CAPITALS TO ENGAGE IN PERSONAL TALKS WITH ARAB LEADERS.

WE ARE PLEASED THAT AFTER PAINSTAKING US EFFORTS, AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL HAS BEEN REACHED WHICH CONSTITUTES AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARD STABILIZATION OF THE CEASEFIRE. IN THIS AGREEMENT, THE DETAILS OF WHICH ARE FAMILIAR TO YOU, EGYPT AND ISRAEL HAVE AGREED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS: TO OBSERVE SCRUPULOUSLY THE CEASEFIRE CALLED FOR BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL; TO UNDERTAKE DISCUSSIONS IMMEDIATELY TO SETTLE THE QUESTION OF THE RETURN TO THE OCTOBER 22 POSITIONS; TO ASSURE THAT THE TOWN OF SUEZ WILL RECEIVE DAILY SUPPLIES OF FOOD, WATER AND MEDICINE AND THAT ALL WOUNDED CIVILIANS THERE WILL BE EVACUATED; TO PERMIT THE UNIMPEDED MOVEMENT OF NON-MILITARY SUPPLIES TO THE EAST BANK OF THE SUEZ CANAL; TO REPLACE THE ISRAELI CHECKPOINTS ON THE CAIRO-SUEZ ROAD WITH UN CHECKPOINTS, WHILE PERMITTING ISRAELI OFFICERS TO PARTICIPATE WITH UNITED NATIONS PERSONNEL IN THE SUPERVISION AT THE SUEZ END OF THE ROAD AT THE BANK OF THE CANAL OF THE NON-

MILITARY NATURE OF THE CARGO; AND TO EXCHANGE ALL PRISONERS OF WAR, INCLUDING WOUNDED, AS SOON AS THE UNITED NATIONS CHECKPOINTS ARE ESTABLISHED ON THE CAIRO-SUEZ ROAD. ALTHOUGH UNDOUBTEDLY THERE WILL BE

RECURRENT DIFFICULTIES BEFORE THE CEASEFIRE IS FULLY STABILIZED, WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THESE CAN BE OVERCOME WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THIS BASIC AGREEMENT.

THE US CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE MUST BE BASED ON THE PROVISIONS OF UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242 IN ALL ITS PARTS. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT THE RECENT CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT WILL LEAD IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO A PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES UNDER APPROPRIATE AUSPICES. FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS TO BE FRUITFUL, A FIRM DEDICATION TO THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS AND A WILLINGNESS ON THE PART OF ALL PARTIES TO SEEK ACCOMMODATIONS ON THE DIFFICULT AND INTRACTABLE ISSUES WHICH HAVE DIVIDED THEM WILL BE REQUIRED.

I AM HOPEFUL, THEREFORE, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL JOIN WITH THE US AND OTHER INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS IN ENCOURAGING THE PARTIES CONCERNED TO APPROACH SUCH NEGOTIATIONS IN A SPIRIT OF GOODWILL AND ACCOMMODATION AND TO AVOID ACTIONS ELSEWHERE WHICH WOULD NOT BE CONDUCIVE TO A FAVORABLE

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NEGOTIATING ATMOSPHERE.

SINCERELY,

RICHARD M. NIXON      RUSH

UNQUOTE RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic DecapTIONing:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 11 MAY 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT, ARMISTICE, TEXT, NEGOTIATIONS, PEACE TALKS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 NOV 1973  
**DecapTION Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**DecapTION Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE222040  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:**  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** P750026-1031  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731167/abqcejrw.tel  
**Line Count:** 149  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** n/a  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS STADIS  
**Reference:** STATE 218948, 217505 1. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENT ON ATTACHED DRAFT OF PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO PRESIDENT TITO'S LETTER ON MIDDLE EAST CRISIS. AS TITO WILL BE GOING TO MOSCOW SHORTLY, POSSIBLY AS EARLY AS NOVEMBER 12, EARLY DESPATCH OF PRESIDENT'S LETTER WOULD SEEM ADVISABLE.  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12-Oct-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2002 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DRAFT OF PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE TO TITO'S LETTER ON MIDDLE EAST  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MPOL, YO, IS, EG, US, XF, UN  
**To:** PEKING  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005